

SECRET

19 October 1949

MEMORANDUM FOR: []

SUBJECT: Statements of Hasan Kupa

1. Hasan Kupa, nephew of Abas Kupa, after visiting his uncle in Rome for two months in August, is reported to have made several statements to Albanians in Italy, as outlined below:

a. The B.K.I. and the Second League of Prizrend were excluded from the recently constituted Committee for Free Albania at the express wishes of the Allies, who considered them unworthy of being included. Representatives of these two groups will also be refused permission to return to Albania in the future.

b. Hasan Kupa praised British policy in general, and expressed particular admiration for various British officers, whom he regards as true friends of Albania. On the other hand, he stated that Major Herbert is an adventurer who is without importance, who has been disavowed by the British Foreign Office, and who is meddling for personal reasons in Albanian affairs.

c. Kupa asserted that its exclusion from the Committee for Free Albania constitutes a death blow for the B.K.I. In any case, he said, it was already in the process of dissolution because of latent divergencies of opinion among its own members. He also stated that the Italian authorities themselves were very equivocal in their attitude toward the B.K.I.

d. Kupa denied that the B.K.I. had sent any of its members into Albania, stating that any stories to that effect were merely B.K.I. propaganda designed to raise the morale of the B.K.I. rank and file, which had become discontented as a result of their leaders' lack of success.

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